

A N A C C O U N T

Of the digging up of

The Quarters of William Stayley,

Lately Executed for

HIGH TREASON,

For that his Relations abused the **KINGS** Mercy.

Nov. 30. 1678. Imprimatur, *WILLIAM SCROGGS.*

Whereas *William Stayley* being found Guilty of High Treason at the *Kings Bench* Bar, on *Thursday* the one and twentieth day of *November* 1678. received then his Sentence to be drawn on a Sledge, to the place of Execution, there to be hanged by the Neck, cut down alive, his Quarters to be severed, and disposed of as the King should think fit, and his Bowels burnt; Which Sentence on *Tuesday* following was accordingly Executed, at the common place of Execution, and his Quarters were brought back and left at *Newgate*, in order to their being set up on the Gates of the City of *London*, and the Head on *London-Bridge*, as Traytors Quarters usually are; But the said *William Stayley* having behaved himself very penitently, from the time of his Conviction until the time of his Execution, which was testified by the several Ministers that visited him during that time; And the Relations of the said *William Stayley* humbly Petitioning His most Sacred Majesty that He would be graciously pleased that his Quarters might be delivered back to them to be privately Buried, and not to be set up on the Gates of the City: which His most Sacred Majesty, out of His Princely Clemency and Compassion was pleased to grant; and Ordered the Sheriff of the County of *Middlesex* to deliver the Quarters to his Friends, by them to be disposed of, as aforesaid, which were delivered accordingly. But since that (to the great Indignity and Affront of His Majesty's Mercy and Favour) the Friends of the said *William Stayley* caused several Masses to be said over his Quarters, and used other Ceremonies according to the manner of the Church of *Rome*, and appointed a time for the Interment, viz. *Friday* the twenty ninth day of *November* 1678. in the Evening, from his Fathers House in *Covent Garden*; at which time there was made a Pompous and great Funeral, many People following the Corps to the Church of *St. Pauls Covent Garden*, where he was buried: Which His Majesty hearing of, was justly Displeased, and Commanded the Coroner of the Liberty of *Westminster* to take up the Body of the said *William Stayley*, and deliver it to the Sheriff of the County of *Middlesex*, and that the said Sheriff should cause the Quarters to be set up on the Gates of the City of *London*, and the Head on *London Bridge*.

The Coroner, according to His Majesties Command, immediately goes to the Church Wardens of *St. Pauls Covent Garden*, and caused the Body of the said *William Stayley* to be taken up, and the Coffin to be broken open, to see that he had the right Body: which when he had done, he caused the Body to be carried to *Newgate*, and there delivered it to the Sheriff of *Middlesex* to be disposed of as aforesaid.